

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EUR-25 NEA-10 IO-13 DPW-01 AID-20

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FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 15063

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, VS, IR

SUBJECT: ICCS: IRANIAN NEED FOR INFORMATION ON ICCS

REF: TEHRAN 5885

1. BASIC INFORMATION ICCS OPERATIONS AND BACKGROUND AVAILABLE FOLLOWING THREE DOCUMENTS, PERHAPS ALREADY AVAILABLE USIS FILES TEHERAN.

A. RESTORING PEACE IN VIET-NAM: BASIC DOCUMENTS ON PARIS AGREEMENT, ICCS PROTOCOL, WITH KISSINGER'S JANUARY 24 PRESS CONFERENCE. SENT BY USIS WIRELESS ON 27 JANUARY 1973 TO ALL FOREIGN SERVICE POSTS.

B. RESTORING PEACE IN VIET-NAM: QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS CONCERNING AGREEMENT. SENT TO ALL FOREIGN SERVICE POSTS BY USIS WIRELESS ON OR ABOUT 29 JANUARY 1973.

C. TEXT OF PARIS JOINT COMMUNIQUE ON VIET-NAM CEASEFIRE, JUNE 13, 1973. SENT TO ALL FOREIGN SERVICE POSTS BY USIS WIRELESS ON 13 JUNE 1973.

2. IF IRANIANS NOT ALREADY FAMILIAR WITH THESE DOCUMENTS, MAY BE DIFFICULT ABSORB SUCH DETAILED INFORMATION PRIOR PRESS CONFERENCE TODAY. FOLLOWING ARE SOME POINTS WHICH MAY ARISE IN PRESS CONFERENCE.

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3. IRANIAN ATTITUDE IN PRESS CONFERENCE ON ICCS SHOULD BE POSITIVE.

IRAN JOINING ICCS WHICH HAS HEADQUARTERS IN SAIGON, REGIONAL TEAMS IN SEVEN CITIES, 26 LOCAL TEAMS SPREAD THROUGH SEVEN REGIONS, 12 REGULAR POINT OF ENTRY TEAMS, SEVEN TEAMS AT LARGE TO BE USED AT OTHER DESIGNATED POINTS OF ENTRY NOT YET ESTABLISHED, SEVEN TEAMS FOR PRISONER EXCHANGES. DELEGATIONS VARY IN TOTAL SIZE BUT MAXIMUM IS 290 MEMBERS.

4. ROLE OF ICCSIS BEST DESCRIBED IN ART 18 OF PARIS AGREEMENT AND ARTS 1, 2 AND 3 OF ICCS PROTOCOL. EITHER OF TWO SOUTH VIETNAMESE PARTIES MAY MAKE REQUESTS FOR INVESTIGATION OF VIOLATIONS TO ICCS. TEAMS THEN INVESTIGATE AND REPORT FINDINGS TO ICCS/SAIGON. TEAMS ARE UNARMED AND ROLE IS TO SUPERVISE CEASEFIRE. ICCS MAY ALSO CONDUCT INVESTIGATIONS ON OWN INITIATIVE. IT IS ALSO RESPONSIBLE FOR SUPERVISION OF ONE FOR ONE REPLACEMENT OF WEAPONS AND MILITARY MATERIEL UNDER ARTICLE 7 OF PARIS AGREEMENT.

5. ORGANIZATION: CHAIRMANSHIP OF ICCS ROTATES ON MONTHLY BASIS, WITH PRESENT CHAIRMAN INDONESIAN. SEPTEMBER CHAIRMAN WILL BE POLISH DELEGATION. IRAN'S PLACE ON THE ROSTER WILL BE DETERMINED AFTER ARRIVAL DELEGATION. AS CANADIAN REPLACEMENT, IRAN COULD BE SCHEDULED AS EARLY AS OCTOBER BUT HUNGDEL APPARENTLY WILLING TAKE OCTOBER BECAUSE OF SCHEDULED ROTATION.

6. ICCS HAS BEEN HOLDING PLENARY SESSIONS THREE TIMES A WEEK, WITH AGREED AGENDA. DECISIONS OF ICCS, REPORTS OF INVESTIGATIONS, ETC. ARE FORWARDED TO FOUR PARTIES (I.E. US, RVN, HANOI, PRG) AND TO THE TWO PARTY JOINT MILITARY COMMISSION (RVN AND PRG) AS APPROPRIATE.

7. WITH CANADIAN WITHDRAWAL, THREE DELEGATIONS HAVE BEEN HOLDING QUOTE CONSULTATIONS UNQUOTE, NOT MAKING DECISIONS IN NAME OF ICCS PENDING ARRIVAL IRAN.

8. EACH ICCS DELEGATION HEADED BY AMBASSADOR WITH GENERAL AS DEPUTY AND CONCURRENTLY HEAD OF MILITARY COMPONENT OF DELEGATION (INDODEL HAS TWO AMBASSADORS). SAIGON STAFF OF EACH DELEGATION INCLUDES SIGNIFICANT NUMBER CIVILIANS, NO CIVILIANS PRESENTLY ASSIGNED OUTSIDE SAIGON, THOUGH INDODEL CONTEMPLATING ASSIGNMENT CIVILIANS AS MEMBERS AND CHIEFS EITHER LOCAL OR REGIONAL TEAMS (CANDEL HAD THREE CIVILIANS AS CHIEFS IN CONFIDENTIAL

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THREE REGIONS.)

9. ICCS AFTER ARRIVAL VIET-NAM ESTABLISHED SECRETARIAT, NOT PROVIDED FOR IN PROTOCOL. SECRETARIAT IS MADE UP OF OFFICIALS, CIVILIAN AND MILITARY, CONTRIBUTED BY EACH DELEGATION. DIRECTOR GENERAL IS AMBASSADOR NUR, PROVIDED BY INDONESIA, WITH ONE YEAR TERM. IRANIANS WILL BE EXPECTED CONTRIBUTE PERSONNEL TO SECRETARIAT, PARTICULARLY A DIRECTOR OF PERSONNEL

AND LOGISTICS SERVICE (FORMERLY HELD BY CANDEL CIVILIAN) WHICH DIRECTOR GENERAL IS HOLDING OPEN FOR IRAN. OTHER SECRETARIAT POSTS FORMERLY HELD BY CANDEL, WHICH IRAN MAY BE EXPECTED TO FILL ARE: ASSISTANT TO DIRECTOR GENERAL (CIVILIAN), FINANCE STAFF OFFICER (MILITARY), CHIEF LIAISON AND PROTOCOL SECTION (CIVILIAN), ASSISTANT TO DIRECTOR FOR PERSONNEL AND LOGISTICS (MILITARY), AIR SERVICES (MILITARY), CHIEF CONTRACTING, PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY (CIVILIAN) AND CHIEF LEGAL SECTION (MILITARY). CIVILIANS OR MILITARY ACCEPTABLE ANY ONE OF THESE POSITION AND NOMINATION WILL BE UP TO IRAN.

10. LANGUAGE OF ICCS IS OFFICIALLY ENGLISH. SAIGON COMPONENT OF IRANIAN DELEGATION AND PARTICULARLY SECRETARIAT MEMBERS SHOULD BE FLUENT IN ENGLISH. INTERPRETERS MAY BE NECESSARY IN TEAM SITES, BUT MUST BE INCLUDED IN 290 CEILING.

11. POSSIBLE QUESTIONS: NEWSMEN LOCALLY HAVE FOCUSED ON CHARGES ICCS INEFFECTIVE BECAUSE OF POLICIES HUNGDEL AND POLDEL, AND ON ICCS BUDGETARY PROBLEMS. RECOMMEND GOI MAKE CLEAR IT IS SUCCEEDING CANDEL AS ICCS MEMBER AND WILL DEVELOP ITS OWN POLICIES AND VIEWS. GOI SHOULD PROBABLY DUCK QUERIES AS TO ICCS FINANCES, POINTING OUT THAT BUDGET PROPOSED BY ICCS IS CURRENTLY UNDER REVIEW BY THE FOUR PARTIES.

12. FOR BACKGROUND USE, GOI SHOULD KNOW THAT ICCS HAS BEEN DIVIDED SHARPLY (TWO TO TWO) ON QUESTIONS AND INVESTIGATIONS INVOLVING CHARGES OF PRG VIOLATION OF CEASEFIRE AND CONTINUED NVN INFILTRATION (WITH HUNGDEL AND POLDEL REFUSING ENDORSE SUCH FINDINGS). PRG ALSO HAS NOT BEEN COOPERATIVE IN ESTABLISHMENT OF SITES IN PRG-CONTROLLED TERRITORY, HAS MANIPULATED PRISONER EXCHANGES FOR POLITICAL PURPOSES, AND HAS NOT PROVIDED ESCORTS AND SECURITY GUARANTEES FOR INVESTIGATIONS OR FOR FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT ICCS TEAMS. GOI MIGHT EXPRESS ITS CONFIDENTIAL

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HOPE PRG AND ALL OTHER PARTIES WILL COOPERATE IN SOLVING SOME OF THESE PROBLEMS.

13. EMBASSY WILL PROVIDE ANY OTHER INFORMATION GOI MAY REQUIRE FOR PLANNING PURPOSES, COMPOSITION OF DELEGATION, ETC. MARTIN

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